

conservation and restoration; increased maritime trade, recreation, and tourism; and the establishment of estuarine research reserves which serve as living laboratories and classrooms.

The lands and waters of our coastal zone are subject to increasingly intensive and competing uses. More than half of the Nation's expanding population is located near the coast. S. 1534 will improve the Act by authorizing "Coastal Community Grants" to assist states in enabling communities to develop strategies for accommodating growth in a manner which protects the resources and uses which contribute to the quality of life in coastal communities. The bill will help build community capacity for growth management and resource protection; dedicate funding for communities to reduce the causes and impacts of polluted runoff on coastal waters and habitats; and reduce the pressure on natural resources caused by sprawl by targeting areas for revitalization.

As a measure of the support the CZMA has enjoyed, it is worth noting that in 1996, the CZMA reauthorization bill passed by a unanimous vote in the House, and passed the Senate by voice vote. We hope that passage of S. 1534 will form part of the legacy of significant accomplishments of the 106th Congress.

Sincerely,

Anthony B. MacDonald, Coastal States Organization.

Jeanne Christie, Association of State Wetlands managers.

Barbara Jean Polo, American Oceans Campaign.

Jacqueline Savitz, Coastal Alliance.

Dr. Michael Donahue, Great Lakes Commission.

David Hoskins, Center for Marine Conservation.

Cyn Sarthou, Gulf Restoration Network.

Tim Williams, Water Environment Federation.

Ed Hopkins, Sierra Club.

Richard Caplan, U.S. Public Interest Research Group.

Howard Page, Sierra Club—Gulf Coast Group, Mississippi Chapter.

Cindy Dunn, Salem Sound 2000.

Diane van DeHei, American Metropolitan Water Agencies.

Joseph E. Payne, Friends of Casco Bay.

Gay Gillespie, Westport River Watershed Alliance.

James Gomes, Environmental League of Massachusetts.

Judith Pederson, Ph.D., MIT Sea Grant College Program.

Bill Stanton, North & South Rivers Watershed Association.

Robert W. Howarth, Ph.D., Environmental Defense.

Michelle C. Kremer, Surfrider Foundation.

Enid Siskin, Gulf Coast Environmental Defense.

Elizabeth Sturcken, Coastal Advocacy Network.

Polly Bradley, SWIM.

Ken Kirk, Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies.

Denise Washko, California CoastKeeper.

Roger Stern, Marine Studies Consortium.

Victor D'Amato, North Carolina Chapter Sierra Club.

Nina Bell, J.D., Northwest Environmental Advocates.

Donald L. Larson, Kitsap Diving Association.

Cliff McCreedy, Oceanwatch.

Richard Delaney, Urban Harbors Institute, Univ. of Massachusetts, Boston.

Dee Von Quirolo, Executive Director, Reef Relief, Key West, Florida.

like the late Mike McKevitt did. Former Congressman and Assistant U.S. Attorney General James D. "Mike" McKevitt passed away last week here in Washington, DC. He was a remarkable man, a selfless public servant, and a loyal friend. He was always working on behalf of others to make the world better.

His positive attitude, personal warmth and absolute sense of fair play were most unique in a far too often cynical, and mean-spirited town called Washington, DC. For 30 years, he rose above the pettiness, nonsense and nastiness that often dominates the environment of the world's most powerful city. He made it more fun to be here. He made it all seem more noble than most of it is.

We will all miss Mike McKevitt. We are all better because of him. Our prayers and thoughts go out to his wonderful wife Judy and his daughters and grandchildren.

I ask unanimous consent that the attached obituary from The Washington Post on Congressman McKevitt be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Sept. 30, 2000]

CONGRESSMAN JAMES D. "MIKE" McKEVITT, 71, DIES]

James D. "Mike" McKevitt, 71, a partner in the Washington government affairs firm of McKevitt & Schneier who was a former congressman and U.S. assistant attorney general, died Sept. 28 at Sibley Memorial Hospital after a heart attack. He lived in McLean.

Mr. McKevitt served in the House as a Colorado Republican for one term before losing a reelection bid in 1972. During his years in the House, he served on the Judiciary, Interior and Small Business committees.

In 1973, he served as assistant attorney general for legislative affairs, then in 1973 and 1974 was counsel to the White House Energy Policy Office.

From 1974 to 1986, he was federal legislation director of the National Federation of Independent Business. He then practiced law before founding the McKevitt & Schneier government affairs firm in 1986.

Mr. McKevitt was a founding member of the Korean War Veterans Memorial Board. In 1987, the former representative of Colorado's 1st District was honored by Sen. William Armstrong (R-Colo.) as a moving force in the enactment of legislation creating the memorial.

Over the years, he also had served on the board of the USO, the U.S. Capitol Historical Society and the International Consortium for Research on the Health Effects of Radiation. He was a past president of the University Club of Washington, parliamentarian of the 1986 White House Conference on Small Business and a member of the Bowen Commission on Medicare. His hobbies included sailing the Chesapeake Bay.

Mr. McKevitt, who was born in Spokane, Wash., was a 1951 graduate of the University of Idaho and a 1956 graduate of the University of Denver law school. During the Korean War, he served as an Air Force combat intelligence officer in Korea.

He was admitted to the Colorado Bar in 1956 and practiced law in Boulder before serving as an assistant attorney general of Colorado from 1958 to 1967. He then served as dis-

trict attorney for the city and county of Denver until entering Congress in 1971.

Mr. McKevitt was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church at Lafayette Square in Washington.

His first wife, Doris L. McKevitt, died in 1994. Survivors include his wife, Judith Woolley McKevitt of McLean; two daughters from his first marriage, Kate McLagan of Austin and Julia Graf of Park City, Utah; and four grandchildren.

#### THE GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES WWW.FIRSTGOV.GOV

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, the Administration recently launched a new website, [www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov). That website is the first all-government portal and will offer one stop information from over 20,000 separate federal websites. This promises to be a great tool. Throughout the country people will be able to download tax forms, read up on the status of legislation, better understand the Social Security system. But Mr. President, meaningful access to all of the important information depends on what side of the Digital Divide you find yourself. To benefit from websites like firstgov, you must have a computer and understand how to use it, and you must have an Internet connection with speeds fast enough to search databases, view graphics and download documents.

As the demand for high speed Internet access grows, numerous companies are responding in areas of dense population. While urban America is quickly gaining high speed access, rural America is being left behind. Ensuring that all Americans have the technological capability is essential in this digital age. It is not only an issue of fairness, but it is also an issue of economic survival.

To remedy the information gap between urban and rural America, I along with Senator DASCHLE introduced S. 2307, the Rural Broadband Enhancement Act, which gives new authority to the Rural Utilities Service to make low interest loans to companies that are deploying broadband technology to rural America.

The Rural Utilities Service has helped before; it can help again. When we were faced with electrifying all of the country, we enacted the Rural Electrification Act. When telephone service was only being provided to well-populated communities, we expanded the Rural Electrification Act and created the Rural Utilities Service to oversee rural telephone deployment. The equitable deployment of broadband services is only the next step in keeping American connected, and our legislation would ensure that.

If we fail to act, rural America will be left behind once again. As the economy moves further and further towards online transactions and communications, rural America must be able to participate. They must be able to start their own online business if they so desire and access information about government services efficiently.

#### CONGRESSMAN JAMES D. "MIKE" McKEVITT

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, few individuals ever touch the lives of people